

LETTER

FROM THE

SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

(In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 12th instant,) information in relation to the horses furnished by the Mounted Men engaged in the Seminole war; also, of the rule adopted for compensating said troops, not applicable to all other troops of the same description.

DECEMBER 19, 1820.

Read, and referred to the Committee of Claims

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY GALES & SEATON.

1820.

LETTER

SECRETARY OF WAR

In obedience to a resolution of the House of Representatives, passed on the 11th instant, in relation to the names furnished by the Secretary of War, and the names of the troops of the same, the following is submitted for the consideration of the House.

DECEMBER 11, 1861

Read and referred to the Committee on Claims.

WASHINGTON

PRINTED BY G. W. KILGORE

1862

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,

16th December, 1820.

SIR: In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 12th instant, requiring the Secretary of War to lay before the House "such extracts from the inspection-roll of the army engaged in the Seminole war, as will shew whether or not the mounted men engaged in that service continued to furnish, at their own expense, horses fit for duty, until discharged; also, whether, or not, any rule was adopted, or compensation given said troops for their services, not made applicable and given to all other troops of the same description, employed in the service of the United States." I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a report of the second Auditor of the Treasury, which contains the information required.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. CALHOUN.

Hon. JOHN W. TAYLOR,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Second Auditor's Office, 15th December, 1820.

SIR: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the United States, of the 12th instant, (referred by you to this office,) requiring information, whether or not the mounted men employed in the Seminole war continued to furnish, at their own expense, *horses fit for duty*, until discharged: and, also, whether, or not, any rule was adopted, or compensation given said troops for their services, not made applicable and given to other troops, of the same description, employed in the service of the United States, I have the honor to state:

That the rolls on file, with the accounts of the paymaster, are the only documents in my possession, that will enable me to answer the first inquiry; and from them it appears that the troops in question were regularly mustered into and out of the public service as *mounted*, and as such received the usual allowance for the use of their horses, and the risk thereof, during their whole tour of duty.

In relation to the second inquiry, it is found they have received, from the paymaster who settled with them, an allowance for clothing at the rate of thirty-seven dollars and twenty cents per annum, which, being contrary to law, and not given to other troops of the same description, will be disallowed on the adjustment of the paymaster's accounts; and, further, although they have received the customary allowance for the use and risk of their arms, it appears, that guns were obtained from individuals for a portion of the troops, on condition of being paid for by the United States, should they not be returned uninjured. Of the number thus obtained, one hundred and forty-three stand were not restored to the owners, and the sum of three thousand four hundred and sixty-nine dollars has been paid for them by captain William Harris, assistant deputy quartermaster.

It may be proper to add, that, although not returned to the owners, these guns are now lying at Columbia in Tennessee, under the direction, and subject to the orders of the ordnance department.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

WM. LEE.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.